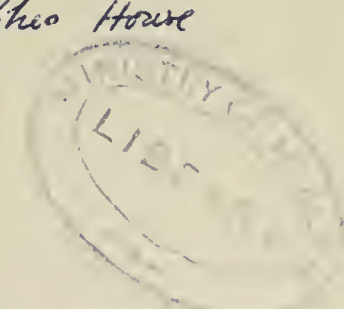




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(1)

CITY OF WELLS

URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for 1952

To The Urban Sanitary Authority of the City of Wells

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the health of the Borough during 1952.

GENERAL

The Area of the City is 1301.150 acres.

The Registrar General's estimate of the mid-year resident population of Wells in 1952 was 5,939 (5,949)

The number of inhabited houses in the City at the end of 1952 was 1,801 (1,779).

The rateable value at the end of 1952 was £48,208 (£47,207).

The sum represented by a penny rate at the end of 1952 was estimated at £192. (£191).

BIRTH RATE

The total live births in the City in 1952 was 84 (78) as follows:-

Legitimate	81 (78)	Males: 41 (46)	Females: 40 (32)
Illegitimate	3 (Nil)	Males: 2 (Nil)	Females: 1 (Nil)

Still Births: There were no still births during 1952.

The birth rate per thousand of the population was 14.3 (13.1).

DEATH RATE

There were 77 (100) deaths in the City from all causes during 1952, 33 (50) males and 44 (50) females.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Sepsis or other Puerperal causes.

There were 9 (15) deaths from Cancer and 21 (28) from Heart Diseases.

The death rate per thousand of the population was 13.0 (16.8).

INFANT MORTALITY

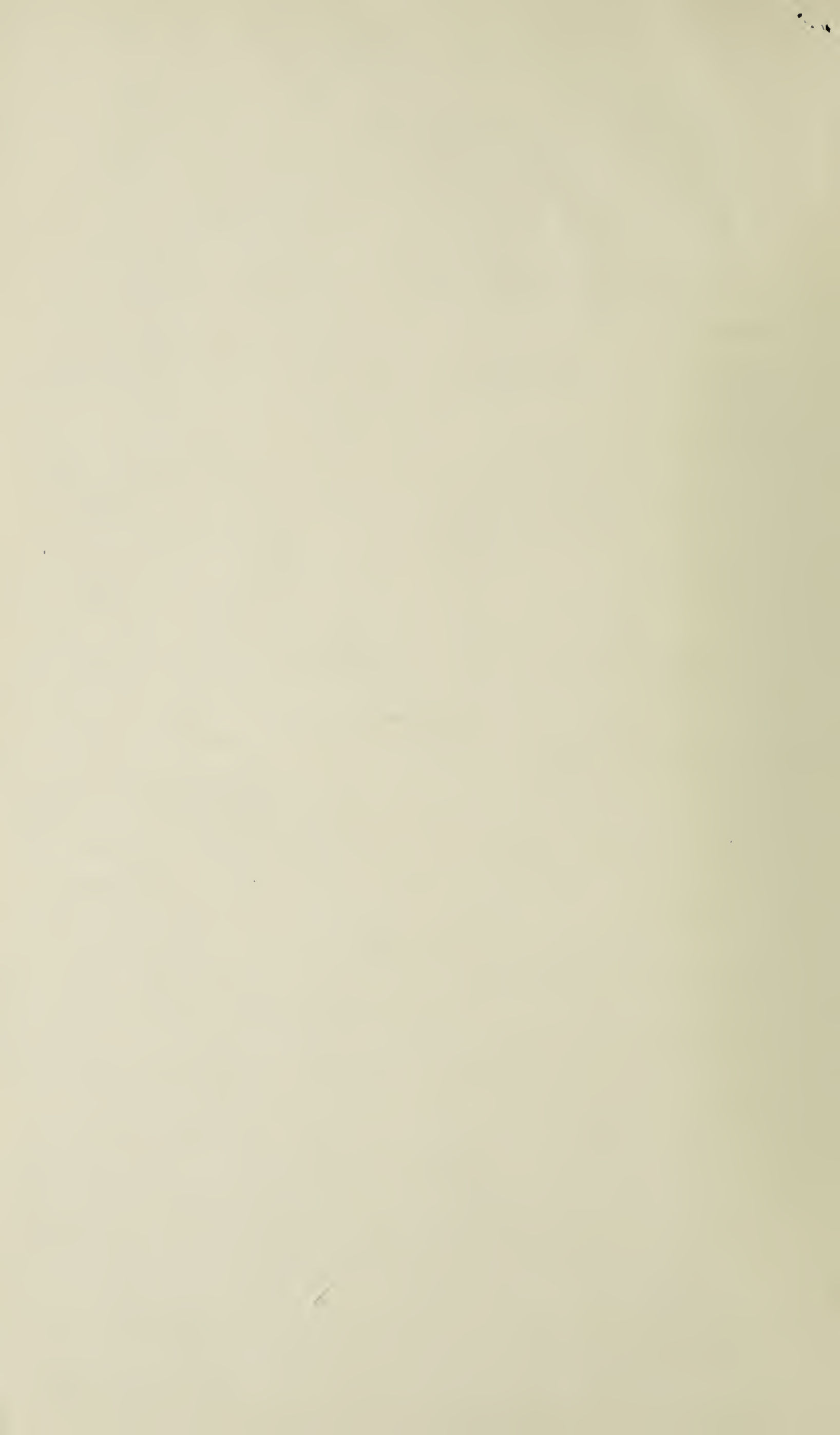
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

Legitimate 4 (6) Male: 2 Female: 2.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:-

Legitimate 4 (5) Male: 2 Female: 2.

N.B. Figures in brackets are the corresponding figures for 1951.



### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The Borough has been free from serious epidemic diseases during the year. Notifications were:-

Measles	6
Whooping Cough	8
Scarlet Fever	Nil.
Erysipelis	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	2

There were no deaths from diseases in this group.

### TUBERCULOSIS.

At the beginning of the year the number of cases on my register was 28 as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
13	11	1	3	14	14

During the year 10 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

During the year 1 case was removed from my register due to death.

So that at the end of the year the number of cases on my register was 37 as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		<u>Total</u>	
<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
16	17	1	3	17	20

### BUG INFESTATION

No cases notified during the year.

### SCABIES

No cases notified which could not be treated at home.

The incidence of scabies during 1952 was slight.

### WATER SUPPLY.

During the year chlorination has continued at the Spring Head and Deep Well. A wholesome and sufficient supply has been available throughout the year.

Water main extensions have been carried out on the new local authority housing scheme at Balch Road, involving 200 yards of new main.

Results of the samples of water taken for analysis were as follows:-

<u>Raw Water</u>				<u>After Treatment.</u>			
<u>Bacteriological</u>		<u>Chemical.</u>		<u>Bacteriological.</u>		<u>Chemical</u>	
<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>	<u>Sat.</u>	<u>Unsat.</u>
Nil.	Nil.	2	Nil.	9	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.



In addition regular samples of raw water from the borehole at the Athletic Ground were taken to discover the presence of tar acids. The results showed quantities below the minimum detectable by recognised laboratory methods.

### SWIMMING BATHS.

Samples of water from the Swimming Baths are taken at regular fortnightly intervals during the season. The samples are taken from both the shallow or inlet end and from the deep or outlet end of the baths. Six samples were taken throughout the season and all were satisfactory.

### SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The consultant Engineers of the Council are preparing the Scheme for the reconstruction of the Sewage Disposal Works on lines suggested by the Ministry of Housing & Local Government.

### HOUSING.

#### Number of Houses Erected.

	Houses erected during the year.	Houses in Conversion course of erection.	Conversion to flats or dwellings	Temporary.
Local Authority.	28	31	Nil.	Nil.
Private Enterprise.	6	4	2	Nil.
Totals	34	35	2	Nil.

Total number of post war houses completed.

- (a) By Local Authority 193.
- (b) Private Enterprise. 20.

### TYPES OF NEW HOUSES.


Houses erected by.	Type.	No.	Av. Cost per house.	Av. rent excl. of rates.	Subsidy per yr.	Period of Subsidy
Local Authority	3 Bedroom.	24	£1,270	15/6.	L.A. £8.18. Govt. £26.14.	60 years
	2 Bedroom Bungalow.	4	£1,149.	12/1.	ditto	ditto
Private Enterprise.	3 Bedroom.	6	£2,370.	-	Nil.	-

### HOUSING PROGRAMME.

New houses proposed to be erected by Local Authority.

- (a) 1953 20
- (b) 1954 38





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The future programme is dependant upon the sanction of the Ministry of Housing & Local Government. The Council has approved a layout at the Balch Road Housing Estate for 148 houses. Sanction has been received for 140 houses of which 84 have been completed, and 31 were in course of construction at the end of the year.

#### HOUSING APPLICATIONS.

The total number of applications for a Council House at the end of the year was 347.

#### OVERCROWDING

The overcrowding situation in the City is not serious but there are isolated cases which receive attention as alternative accommodation becomes available.

#### HOUSING INSPECTIONS.

(I)	1. (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	276.
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	454.
	2. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (Included under sub-head 1 (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925 and 1932.	96.
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	187.
	(c)	Number of houses in which no action was found necessary.	63.
	3. (a)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous and injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	49.
	4. (a)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	167.
	(II) (a)	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority and their Officer.	93.
	(b)	Number of houses demolished voluntarily or in consequence of informal action.	Nil.
	(c)	Number of houses demolished under existing Clearance Orders.	Nil.
	(III)	<u>Action under Statutory Powers during the year.</u>	
		Proceedings under section 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	Nil.
		Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	Nil.
		Proceedings under section 12 Housing Act, 1936.	Nil.

#### HOUSE REFUSE COLLECTION

A weekly combined house refuse and salvage collection is carried out in the City.





MILK SUPPLY.

(a)	Total number of Registered Dairy Farms.	7.
(b)	Total number of retailers.	6.
(c)	Number of Producer/Retailers included in (b)	1.
(d)	Number of Licensed Pasteurisation Plants.	1.
(e)	Number of heat-treatment plants not included in (a)	Nil.
(f)	Number of Supplementary Licences issued to dealers of distributors.	3.

MILK SAMPLING.

Designation.	Sample Taken.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	20	17	3.
Accredited	-	-	-
Pasteurised.	20	18	2.
Sterilised	-	-	-
Undesignated	-	-	-
Totals.	40	35	5.

Biological Sampling.

2 samples taken for biological sampling showed a negative result.

ICE CREAM.

Number of Premises Registered:-

(a)	For Manufacture only	Nil.
(b)	For Retail only.	29.
(c)	For Manufacture and Retail.	7.

Ice Cream Sampling.

The total number of samples taken during the year was 138. The results were as follows:-

	<u>Hot Mix.</u>	<u>Cold Mix.</u>
Grade I.	94	6.
Grade II.	16	3
Grade III.	14	1
Grade IV.	4	Nil.
Totals	128	10

MEAT SUPERVISION.

(a)	Number of Licensed Slaughterhouses in District	4.
(b)	Number of Registered Slaughterhouses in District	5.
(c)	Number in use by Ministry of Food	Nil.

KNACKERS YARDS.

Number registered in District.	Nil.
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RIVER POLLUTION.

Number of cases dealt with during the year.	Nil.
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Alan W. Woolley M.B.Ch.B.  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

H.C. Birch, M.R.San.I.M.S.I.A.  
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

